

JC Rec'd PCT/PTO 29 MAR 2002

220357US-0PCT

Re  
#4/A  
7-21-02IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

ZHIJIAN XUE ET AL.

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN. : ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH  
(Based on PCT/EP00/09915)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: PREPARING AN AQUEOUS DISPERSION  
OF PARTICLES COMPOSED OF ADDITION  
POLYMER AND FINELY DIVIDED  
INORGANIC SOLIDPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows.

3. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one inorganic solid in water at 20°C and 1 bar (absolute) has a solubility  $\leq 1$  g/l water.

4. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one dispersant is an emulsifier.

5. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one monomer A comprises at least one acid group and/or its corresponding anion which is selected from the